COMMUNITY & SPORTS

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Hurricane Football Keeps Playoff Hopes Alive

Photo courtesy of Miami Hurricanes

Canes Rewind: A Look Back at the Win over Virginia Tech

Photo courtesy of Miami Hurricanes

Miami Sweeps No. 15 UNC

Photo courtesy of Miami Hurricanes

Miami Dominates Delaware State, 97-41

By Bo Healey | Cane's Corner

FOOTBALL —

Miami (9-2, 5-2 ACC) scored three touchdowns and two field goals on its first five possessions on the way to a dominant 34-17 win over the Virginia Tech Hokies at Lane Stadium in Blacksburg last Saturday afternoon.

The Canes no longer control their own destiny in their quest for a spot in the ACC Championship Game. All they can do is win and hope other games fall their way.

It was a no-nonsense win for Miami. Quarterback Carson Beck was 27 of 32 for 320 yards and four touchdowns. Freshman sensation Malachi Toney was exceptional again. "Mali" caught 12 passes for 146 yards and a touchdown, had three rushes for 16 yards, and completed a pass for 15 yards. Miami did not commit a turnover nor allow a sack. The Canes defense had five sacks and forced one lost fumble. Next up is a trip to Pittsburgh to face the Panthers (8-3, 6-1) in another must-win contest. Kickoff is at noon. The game will be televised locally on ABC.

MEN'S BASKETBALL —

On the good side, Miami is 5-1. On the bad side, the wins were against lowly ranked teams according to KenPom.com: Jacksonville (244), Bethune-Cookman (205), Stetson (334), Elon (258) and Delaware State (362). The lone loss was away from home against defending national champion Florida (5). The Canes are currently #46 in the rankings and have some true tests coming up.

On Thanksgiving Day they will be in Orlando to play #8 BYU (4-1), who are led by highly touted freshman AJ Dybantsa, whom nbadraft.net predicts will be the first player taken in the 2026 NBA Draft. On Friday, 11/28, Miami will face either #69 Dayton (5-1) or #78 Georgetown (5-0). The Canes then travel to Oxford, Mississippi, to face #34 Ole Miss (5-0) on Tuesday, 12/2, in the ACC–SEC Challenge. We will learn a lot about our 2025–26 team over the next two weeks. The 18 straight ACC conference games start at home against Pittsburgh on Dec. 30. We wish the Canes good fortune on their road trip.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL —

The LadyCanes (4-1) are in the middle of a four-game road trip.

On Thursday, 11/20, they faced Davidson (4-2) at the State Farm Field House in Buena Vista, Florida. It was a competitive game with five ties and ten lead changes. Davidson led by seven after Q1 before Miami took a 32-31 lead at halftime. The Canes upped the lead to 48-45 after Q3 and went on to a 66-58 win. Gal Raviv broke out with 22 points on 10-for-16 shooting. Shay Kyle notched a double-double with 17 points and 11 boards. Vittoria Blasigh added 11 points, nine coming on 3-pointers. Two days later Miami faced #17 Iowa (6-0) on the same court. Iowa never trailed and led by 13 with 4:42 left in the fourth quarter, but the LadyCanes stormed back and a missed 3-pointer at the buzzer could have tied it. Five points by Amarachi Kimpson and six by Blasigh cut the lead to 61-57 and Iowa called timeout with 3:04 left. After an Iowa turnover, Kyle made a layup to get the Canes within two. Miami was forced to foul and Iowa went up 63-59 with 0:11 left. A Raviv layup made it 63-61 with 0:04 remaining.

Miami fouled again, Iowa made 1 of 2 for a 64-61 lead, and that's how it ended after a desperation 3-pointer by Kimpson would not go down. Kimpson led with 19 points, Kyle had 17, and Blasigh added 11. The LadyCanes are off to George Town, Cayman Islands, on Friday, 11/28, to play George Washington. They will play Oklahoma State the following day. They return home to host Kentucky in the ACC–SEC Challenge on Wednesday, 12/3, at 5 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL —

The most exciting show in town (24-5, 14-4) continues to bring down the house whenever they take the court. This past weekend it was with two sweeps, the first against Duke on Friday night, the latter on Sunday afternoon against North Carolina.

Duke was over-matched but put up a very respectable fight against Miami. Duke tied the first set at 17 before the Canes took the set 25-20. The Blue Devils pushed even closer in set two, tying it at 22 before Miami closed it 25-22. Duke ran out of gas in the third as the Canes went up 5-0 and 12-6 before running away 25-14 to take the match. Senior Flormarie Heredia Colon became the all-time leader in kills in program history with 20 kills against Duke. Sophomore Ariana Rodriguez added 31 assists and 10 digs.

The Canes started out on fire against the Tar Heels. Two aces by Rodriguez led to a 6-1 early lead. Keeping the pedal down, Miami extended to 15-4 before taking the set at 25-11. Carolina went up 13-11 in set two but couldn't sustain it, and the Canes took the set 25-23. Miami went up 8-2 in the third and never trailed on the way to a 25-21 set and match win. Heredia Colon led with 23 kills while Rodriguez added 30 assists, four kills and seven digs. Next up is a Wednesday match vs. NC State before the regular season finale at North Carolina on Saturday, 11/29, at 1:00. The NCAA Volleyball Tournament Selection Show will be on ESPN on Sunday, 11/30, at 6 p.m. Teams that are seeded 1–4 in the tournament will host the first two rounds on their home court.

If the Canes win their final two matches, the Miami season-long resume would be more than worthy of a top-four seed.

Hosting tournament matches has been the number one goal of the entire volleyball program throughout the 2025 season. These amazing ladies have earned a right to host with their play. It would be a disservice to collegiate athletics if they are denied.

That's it for now. Be well, all. Happy Thanksgiving and Go Canes!

Faith and Inspiration

Aptitude for Gratitude

By Vincent V. Marshburn

For most of us, it should seem natural to experience and express gratitude for obvious blessings and boons that bestow benefit to our welfare.

Conversely, we may be instinctively less inclined to regard adverse circumstances, conditions, or relationships with similar appreciation.

Throughout the Bible, believers are encouraged to practice praising God for provision in all matters. With regard to misfortune, it is not that we are exhorted to indulge in some kind of perverse pleasure in pain, relishing any misery or suffering endured by ourselves or others. Rather, we are invited to develop spiritual perspective and reliance on divine determination and support.

There are some who consider the first record of formal expression of thanksgiving to God to be the instance of offerings by Abel and Cain in the fourth chapter of Genesis. Though it might be debated among students of Scripture, one could speculate, based on this story, that such manifestation of thankfulness is intended to include an aspect of sacrifice — exhibiting humility and acknowledging dependency.

The Biblical accounts of individuals such as Joseph, Daniel, and Esther model a Godly attitude towards hardship and affliction — including in their cases, imprisonment or threat of death. Their narratives in Scripture attest to trusting that the heavenly Father has purpose for all things, even those which might normally lead to distress and despair. Gratitude might certainly require some sacrifice of pride and self-reliance in such scenarios.

The apostle Paul was certainly familiar with disappointment, discomfort, and danger. In some of his various letters which comprise a good portion of the New Testament, he asserted that gratitude can be our greatest tool and asset for strengthening our faith (Ephesians 5:20; Philippians 4:12-13; Colossians 3:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:15). Thankfulness can displace petty and unedifying conversation; it can focus our concern and intent on God's will and welfare of others; it can help reflect our confidence in and dependence on God for wisdom and peace. While some might consider it naive, gratitude in all circumstances allows us to transform and transcend temporal and mundane obsessions and anxieties.

Jesus himself readily demonstrated seemingly unexpected gratitude in and for ostensibly problematic or severe situations and occurrences. He gave thanks when there was only a meager supply of food — and miraculously fed thousands (Matthew 15:36; Mark 8:6; John 6:11). He gave thanks when his friend Lazarus passed away, fully trusting that God would reveal his power and sovereignty over life and death (John 11:41-42). He even gave thanks on the night before his crucifixion, urging his disciples to take comfort in knowing that he must leave them in order for, among other things, the Holy Spirit to be bestowed upon them (John 14:15-21; 16:5-11).

As many of us know firsthand, it is not easy to associate thankfulness with the various struggles and difficulties of life, including separation and loss. Sometimes, unexpected gratitude can emerge from apparent adversity.

The first few seasons of the "Star Trek: Voyager" television series feature a character named Kes, a young Ocampan woman who joins the crew of the starship Voyager shortly after its abrupt and involuntary arrival in the Delta Quadrant of the galaxy, tens of thousands of light years from Earth and Federation space. The Ocampan are a remarkably short-lived species who mature at a rapid rate and inherently exhibit some enhanced mental abilities such as telepathy and telekinesis. During her time with Voyager, Kes is embraced by the crew as a valued member and receives encouragement, mentorship, and training from the likes of Captain Kathryn Janeway, the Vulcan chief of security Tuvok, and the holographic Doctor.

In one episode, Kes finds that her abilities seem to be accelerating at an astonishing pace. Tuvok attempts to coach her in controlling these powers through guided meditation exercises. However, it soon becomes apparent that Kes is undergoing a transformation — indeed, an evolution — which is beyond what the resources of Voyager can support or contain. She has reached a level of power which allows her to sense and manipulate matter and thoughts across significant distance. Kes herself realizes that she has outgrown the initially expansive experience of starship life that was well above and outside the bounds of the sheltered life of her homeworld. She is also aware that she now poses a potential threat to the safety of the ship and crew, and that it may be time for her and their paths to diverge. Kes voices her concerns and conclusions to Janeway.

KES: I've been thinking about everything that's been going on, and I know what I have to do. It's time for me to leave Voyager.

JANEWAY: Oh, Kes.

KES: Something important is happening to me, and I want to explore it. But I can't stay here any longer. I'm a danger to all of you.

...

JANEWAY: What if it's not true? What if you're simply being swept up in the excitement of something you think is happening, but it's not real? On the basis of a feeling, an intuition, you're asking me to let you go, quite likely forever? Kes, I just can't do that.

KES: It's my decision. My fate. Would you really try to stop me?

...

JANEWAY: You've lived most of your life here. Voyager has been your home. And you've been a vital part of this family. Oh, I'm going to miss you.

Shortly afterwards, Kes begins to undergo a drastic and virtually cataclysmic metamorphosis as her entire body seems to shift and shimmer in and out of reality, emitting tremendous amounts of energy into her surroundings. Knowing that time is short, she flees Voyager on a shuttle.

As Kes and the shuttle dissipate in a final burst of light, she whispers her last thought to her adopted family: "My gift to you." The starship's warp core momentarily gains an improbable boost of power, and Voyager suddenly finds itself traveling at unprecedented speed over thousands of light years from its previous position. When the ship comes to rest, Janeway realizes that they are in fact "ten years closer to home." The crew's gratitude is profound and unspeakable.

Often, reasons for being thankful are quite evident. It can be easy to focus on the comforts and consolations in life. On the other hand, it is not always obvious that failure, mishap, or tragedy can represent occasions to encounter or experience grace. Our aptitude for gratitude is a gift cultivated by God within our heart and mind, empowered by the Holy Spirit.

When we are able to perceive even the most challenging moments in life as opportunities to share the love of Jesus, we are thankful and count ourselves blessed for such sanctified understanding.